AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 U.S. Appln. No. 09/170,225

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-8 as follows:

1. (Amended) A feed belt [containing] comprising:

an elastic material; and

high hardness particles [in an] dispersed throughout the elastic material,

characterized in that [said] the high hardness particles [can] project from a feed surface [by], where the projecting amount increases with the elasticity of [said] the elastic material when a member to be fed is fed, and the projecting amount [is varied] varies according to the pressure applied to the belt, which pressure varies with the shape or hardness of [said] the member to be fed.

2 Amended) A feed belt [in which] comprising:

10 to 70 percent by weight [%] of high hardness particles having a particle diameter of 3 to 300 µm [are contained in]; and

an elastic material having a hardness corresponding to rubber hardness 15 to 90 and containing the high hardness particles.

 Δ (Amended) Δ [The] feed belt according to claim 2, [wherein] <u>further comprising</u> a filament <u>which</u> is disposed in a central portion of the belt.

- 4. (Amended) A [The] feed belt according to claim 2, [wherein] <u>further comprising</u> a filament <u>which</u> is disposed on the driving surface side.
 - 5. (Amended) A feed belt comprising:
 a base material layer formed of [an] a first elastic material [, and];
 a high hardness particle containing layer [containing] comprising:
 a second elastic material; and

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 U.S. Appln. No. 09/170,225

high hardness particles <u>dispersed throughout</u> [in] the <u>second</u> elastic material, characterized in that [said] the high hardness particles [can] project from a feed surface [by], where the projecting amount increases with the elasticity of [said] at least the second elastic material when a member to be fed <u>is fed</u>, and the projecting amount [is varied] <u>varies</u> according to the <u>pressure applied to the belt</u>, which <u>pressure varies with the shape</u> or hardness of [said] <u>the</u> member to be fed.

6. (Amended) A feed belt comprising:

a base material layer formed of [an] <u>a first</u> elastic material having a hardness corresponding to rubber hardness 15 to 90[, and];

a high hardness particle containing layer [containing] comprising:

10 to 70 percent by weight [%] of high hardness particles having a particle diameter of 3 to 300 µm [in the]; and

<u>a second</u> elastic material having a hardness corresponding to rubber hardness 15 to 90 and containing said high hardness particles.

filament which is disposed in a central portion of the belt, [said] the base material layer being formed on the driving surface side, [said] and the high hardness particle containing layer being formed on the feed surface side.

8.—(Amended)—A [The] feed belt according to claim 6 [5, wherein] <u>further comprising</u> a filiment-which is disposed on [the] a driving surface side of said belt.

Please add the following new claim:

is less than the hardness of the-first-elastic material.--